(c) about 1 Crore 43 lakh cases have been amicably settled through the forum of Lok Adalats across the country, which include 526,378 cases settled by Lok Adalats in Andhra Pradesh. Similarly 15,48,844 complaints have been resolved by various Consumer Redressal forums at National, State and District levels. These include 1,29,640 complaints disposed of by the 25 District Consumer Forums and 1 State Commission in Andhra Pradesh.

Realisation of revenue locked up in litigations

557. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that revenue to the tune of Rs. 60 thousand crore are locked up in litigations;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that lack of strategy to deal with the high volume of court cases and improper allocation of work is contributing to the rising litigated amounts; and

(d) the details of the measures contemplated to realize the revenue locked up in litigations?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ordinance on Electoral Reforms

558. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently promulgated an Ordinance on Electoral Reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ordinance runs contrary not only to the guidelines issued by the Election Commission in compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 25th May, 2002, but also to the specific

recommendations of the Ethics Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the subject in its latest report;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any steps taken to correct the same; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The representation of the People (Amendment) Ordinance, 2002 (No. 4 of 2002) was promulgated on 24.8.2002. The copy of the said Ordinance has already been laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 20.11.2002.

(c) to (f) The Ordinance is based on the consensus arrived at among the political parties in the meetings held on 8th July 2002 and 2nd August 2002. The parties did not feel inclined to accept all the guidelines of the Supreme Court of India. However, some of the major concerns have been met in the Ordinance. Further, as far as the recommendations of the Ethics Committee in its Third Report are concerned, the Report does not touch upon the issues which have been dealt in the Ordinance. As such, it cannot be said that the Ordinance is against any specific recommendation of the Ethics Committee.

Amendments in Divorce Law

559. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for amendment to the divorce law in the larger interest of harassed women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.